

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 SS-15
NSC-05 /054 W

-----140709Z 103094 /13

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FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5733

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS LUXEMBOURG 0366

BRUSSELS FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAIR, LU

SUBJ: CIVAIR: UNION FEARS DISMANTLING OF EUROCONTROL

1. THE LUXEMBOURG BRANCH OF THE EUROPEAN CIVIL SERVICE UNION HAS ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE PROTESTING THE REORGANIZATION OF EUROCONTROL WHICH IT VIEWS AS THE DESTRUCTION OF THE BODY BY ITS MEMBER COUNTRIES. THE UNION'S ACTION IS TO ALERT THE PUBLIC TO THE CONSEQUENCES OF AN ALLEGED DISMANTLING OF THIS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, NAMELY, DISREGARD FOR A HARD-EARNED EXPERTISE IN AIR TRAFFIC SAFETY, FOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS OVER 15 YEARS, AND FOR ONE THOUSAND OFFICIALS OR EMPLOYEES WHO WOULD HAVE LITTLE FUTURE OUTSIDE THE ORGANIZATION.

2. ECONOFFICER SPOKE WITH LUXEMBOURG AIRPORT

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COMMANDANT WENANDY, WHO IS BOARD MEMBER OF EUROCONTROL, TO ASCERTAIN FACTS OF SITUATION. MR. WENANDY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT DISCUSSIONS FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF EUROCONTROL ARE CURRENTLY UNDERWAY AMONG MEMBER COUNTRIES BUT EMPHASIZED THAT THE EXISTENCE OF THE BODY WAS NOT AT ISSUE. THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING EUROCONTROL SIGNED IN 1963 IS VALID UNTIL 1983. HE DID,

HOWEVER, CORROBORATE FACT THAT ONE OF TWO EUROCONTROL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTERS, IN KARLSRUHE, GERMANY, IS NOW OPERATED BY THE FRG BUNDESFLUGSICHERUNG. THE OTHER, IN MAASTRICHT, HOLLAND, IS STILL A DIRECT EUROCONTROL OPERATION AND IT WILL CONTINUE TO FUNCTION. THE UNION IS CLEARLY FEARFUL THAT THE MAASTRICHT CENTER TOO WILL REVERT TO NATIONAL FROM EURO CONTROL. MR. WENANDY NOTED THE TENDENCY TOWARDS NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL AND ALLUDED TO DIFFERING POLITICAL ATTITUDES TOWARD EUROCONTROL. NONETHELESS, HE VIEWS THE CURRENT UNION ACTION BEING CAUSED BY THE DIFFERING PERSONNEL POLICIES, ESPECIALLY ON WAGES, OF THE NATIONAL AGENCIES AND EUROCONTROL. WENANDY DESCRIBED THE LARGE AND GROWING DISCREPANCY BETWEEN EURO AND NATIONAL SALARIES WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN A MAJOR ISSUE IN THE KARLSRUHE CASE. EUROCONTROL HAS TRADITIONALLY FOLLOWED, BUT WITHOUT FORMAL AGREEMENT OR OBLIGATION TO DO SO, EC PERSONNEL POLICIES (AND WAGE SCALES). EUROCONTROL RECENTLY APPROVED A PAY INCREASE BUT LET IT BE KNOWN THAT IT MAY NO LONGER FOLLOW EC INCREASES.

3. WENANDY POINTED OUT THAT THREE OTHER EUROCONTROL INSTITUTIONS: (1) TRAINING SCHOOL IN LUXEMBOURG; (2) TEST CENTER OUTSIDE PARIS; AND (3) AIR SERVICE FEES CENTER IN BRUSSELS WERE IN NO WAY THREATENED BY RE-ORGANIZATION PLANS. GINN

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